



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8

Office of the National Clinical
Advisor and Group Lead for Mental
Health

HSE, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8,
DO8 W2A8

www.hse.ie
@hselive

e: ncagl.mentalhealth@hse.ie

Deputy Sherlock,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Date: 30th September 2025

PQ Number: 48639/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if every model 3 and model 4 hospital is now compliant with the national clinical programme for self-harm and suicide-related ideation guidance issued in 2024. -Marie Sherlock

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

A Model of Care National Clinical Programme for Self Harm and Suicide related Ideation provides a framework to improve services for all who self-harm or present with suicide-related ideation, regardless of where they present. Launched by Minister Butler in February 2022 it outlines in detail the response for people who present to the emergency department including services for children and adolescents with Self-harm and Suicide Related Ideation.

The Model of Care ensures that those presenting to the ED receives a compassionate, empathic, validating response, and a therapeutic assessment and intervention from a suitably trained mental health professional. Every effort is made to ensure that a family member or supportive adult is involved in assessment and safety planning, and that they are followed up and linked to appropriate next care.

While continuing to maintain and further improve the NCP within the acute hospital EDs, the programme developed a national operating guidance document, to establish a standardised framework for consistent service implementation nationwide. The document supports compliance with best practice, clarifying roles and responsibilities and defining clear decision-making pathways. By providing a guidance framework for clinicians and teams implementing the programme, it ensures a standardise practice, reducing variability in care for patients attending ED and promoting a patient-centred delivery of care. The guidance document was developed and ratified by the programmes Implementation and Advisory Group (IAG), which has a member with live-experience in attendance. The group regularly reviews all programme

documentation to ensure best practice and feedback from services ensuring a robust governance.

It has been a particular strength of the NCPSHI, since its inception that we have been able to compile, analyse and report accurate data, in relation to the four pillars of care on which the programme is founded. This data has informed an important body of work in demonstrating the success of the programme in implementing its key clinical interventions. Further information and publications using the data can be found

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/self-harm-suicide-related-ideation/>

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive